

## Message Text

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42

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SCSE-00 H-02 RSR-01 RSC-01 /015 W

----- 052878

P 121545 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1617

UNCLAS KINGSTON 1165

SCS PLEASE PASS ARA/ CAR

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: CASC, SILVESTRI, DIANE

SUBJ: W/ W: SILVESTRI, DIANE

REF: STATE 59365

CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: CONGRESSMAN CHAMBERLAIN

CHRONOLGY IS AS FOLLOWS:

1. THE MARINE SECURITY GUARD RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL AT 8:46 P. M., THURSDAY, MARCH 22, FROM MR. SILVESTRI IN EAST LANSING, MICHIGAN. SUBSTANCE OF MESSAGE WAS THAT DIANE HAD AN INJURED LEG OR HIP AFTER BEING STRUCK BY A CAR AND HAD BEEN TRANSFERRED FROM THE NORTH COAST OF JAMAICA TO KINGSTON PUBLIC HOSPITAL. SHE WAS UNDER THE CARE OF DR. BURROWES ( AN ORTHOPEDIC SURGEON WELL AND FAVORABLY KNOWN TO EMBASSY, AS WELL AS BEING A LOCAL VA CONSULTANT) AND WAS TO BE TRANSFERRED TO A PRIVATE HOSPITAL. EMBASSY CONSULAR DUTY OFFICER WAS NOTIFIED.

2. AT 9:00 THE CONSULAR OFFICER DUTY OFFICER REPORTED BACK TO THE MARINE THAT DIANE WAS BEING TRANSFERRED TO THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATES HOSPITAL THE FOLLOWING MORNING ( FRIDAY).

3. FRIDAY MORNING, MARCH 23, SCS CONSULAR OFFICER CONTACTED MEDICAL ASSOCIATES HOSPITAL AND SPOKE WITH DIANE, WHO SEEMED COMPOSED AND CLEAR- MINDED; SHE STATED THAT THE DOCTOR INDICATED SHE HAD A BROKEN LEG OR HIP AND  
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THAT THE DIAGNOSIS WAS BEING CONFIRMED.

4. FRIDAY AFTERNOON, THE RESPONSIBLE CONSULAR OFFICER RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL, FIRST WITH DR. BURROWES AND THEN WITH A MR. HENRY, BUSINESS MANAGER OF MEDICAL ASSOCIATES, TO THE EFFECT THAT WITHOUT SUFFICIENT FUNDS DIANE WOULD BE TRANSFERRED BACK TO KINGSTON PUBLIC HOSPITAL. THE CONSULAR OFFICER STATED HE WOULD CALL THE SILVESTRI FAMILY AND HAVE THEM WIRE FUNDS ASAP. MR. HENRY RELUCTANTLY AGREED, BUT HE STATED HE WOULD ONLY ALLOW HER TO STAY IF THE MONEY ARRIVED IN A REASONABLE TIME, AS IT WAS HIS EXPERIENCE THAT IT SOMETIMES TOOK WEEKS FOR MONEY TO COME FROM THE UNITED STATES.

5. CONSULAR OFFICER REACHED MRS. SILVESTRI BY TELEPHONE, AND SHE AGREED SHE WOULD WIRE \$500 U. S. DOLLARS IMMEDIATELY. CONSULAR OFFICER CALLED MR. HENRY, AND ON STRENGTH OF MR S. SILVESTRI'S PROMISE TO WIRE MONEY, MEDICAL ASSOCIATES AGREED TO ALLOW PATIENT TO REMAIN OVER WEEKEND.

6. MONDAY, MARCH 26, CONSULAR OFFICER RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL FROM FIRST NATIONAL BANK OF CHICAGO, KINGSTON BRANCH, INDICATING MONEY HAD BEEN RECEIVED. CONSULAR OFFICER INSTRUCTED THEM TO ISSUE CHECK TO DIANE AND HAVE THEM DELIVER IT TO EMBASSY BY MESSENGER. LATER THAT DAY THE CHECK ARRIVED, AND AN EMBASSY VEHICLE WAS DESPATCHED TO DELIVER THE CHECK TO DIANE AT THE HOSPITAL TO AVOID DELAY IN MAIL. IN THE MEANTIME, MR. HENRY WAS TELEPHONED AND ASSURED THAT MONEY HAD ARRIVED AND THAT MORE WOULD BE FORTHCOMING AS NECESSARY.

7. LATER THE SAME WEEK, MRS. SILVESTRI TELEPHONED FROM THE MEDICAL ASSOCIATES HOSPITAL IN A STATE OF HIGH EXCITEMENT AND INDIGNATION, DEMANDING TO KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THE EMBASSY WAS SUPPOSED TO DO FOR HER DAUGHTER. WHY HAD N' T THE EMBASSY BEEN MORE ATTENTIVE? WHY HADN' T THE EMBASSY INVESTIGATED THE ACCIDENT? WHY HAD THE EMBASSY ALLOWED THE PERSON WHO KNOCKED HER DAUGHTER DOWN ( A U. S. CITIZEN) TO LEAVE THE ISLAND? WHEN WE EXPLAINED EXACTLY WHAT THE EMBASSY'S FUNCTION WAS AND THAT WHEN WE KNEW SHE WAS IN HOSPITAL, RECEIVING ADEQUATE MEDICAL CARE, AND HER PARENTS NOTIFIED, OUR UNCLASSIFIED

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DAY- TO- DAY RESPONSIBILITY CEASED. WHEN THE CONSULAR OFFICER

MENTIONED SENDING THE DUTY CAR TO DELIVER THE CHECK, SHE INDIGNANTLY STATED SHE WOULD REIMBURSE THE EMBASSY FOR THE GASOLINE. SHE THEN STATED SHE NEEDED NO FURTHER ASSISTANCE.

8. THE REFTEL ARRIVED SUBSEQUENT TO THE AFOREMENTIONED CONVERSATION.  
ROBERTS

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* UNCLASSIFIED

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